

Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-20

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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1771

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE OTTAWA 2266

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, CI, CA

SUBJECT: CHILEAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS "IN STATE OF SUSPENDED
ANIMATION"

REF: OTTAWA 2261

1. CHILEAN-CANADIAN RELATIONS ARE "IN A STATE OF SUSPENDED ANIMATION," AN EXTERNAL AFFAIRS SPOKESMAN SAID SEPTEMBER 18, FOLLOWING THIS WEEK'S RESIGNATION OF CHILEAN AMBASSADOR LUCIO PARADA AND CANADA'S DELAY IN RECOGNIZING THE NEW CHILEAN GOVERNMENT.

2. THE SPOKESMAN SAID CANADA WILL CONTINUE TO EXTEND DIPLOMATIC PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES TO THE REMAINING CHILEAN EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN OTTAWA, BUT WHETHER THEY CAN SPEAK FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT "IS GREY AREA."

3. HE AID CANADA RECOGNIZES "THE STATE OF CHILE" AND HAS NOT BROKEN RELATIONS WITH IT. BUT ON THE QUESTION OF DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION OF THE NEW CHILEAN MILITARY GOVERNMENT EXTAFF MIN SHARP WAS QUOTED IN THE PRESS AS SAYING ON SEPTEMBER 18 THAT BECAUSE "EVENTS IN CHILE ARE RATHER OBSCURE," IT MIGHT BE "SOME TIME" BEFORE
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RECOGNITION IS EXTENDED. MR. SHARP SAID THAT AMBASSADOR

PARADA DID NOT INDICATE HE WOULD SEEK POLITICAL ASYLUM IN CANADA NOR HAS ANYONE ELSE SO FAR SOUGHT REFUGE IN CANADA, OR ASKED ASYLUM.

4. NEGOTIATIONS ARE PROCEEDING, MR. SHARP SAID, TO ASSURE THE FOUR CHILEAN NATIONALS (THREE ADULTS AND ONE CHILD) WHO FLED TO THE CANADIAN EMBASSY IN SANTIAGO SAFE PASSAGE OUT OF CHILE. THEY WERE SAID NOT TO BE MEMBERS OF THE PREVIOUS CHILEAN GOVERNMENT. THEY WERE LET INTO THE EMBASSY BECAUSE "THEY NEEDED PROTECTION," MR. SHARP EXPLAINED.

5. RAUL SCHMIDT, FIRST SECRETARY OF THE CHILEAN EMBASSY, WHO HAS ASSUMED CHARGE OF THE EMBASSY TOLD REPORTERS THAT IT WAS NORMAL FOR CHILEAN AMBASSADORS TO RESIGN FOLLOWING A CHANGE IN GOVERNMENT. WHILE THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT IS STILL CONSIDERING WHETHER THE CHILEAN EMBASSY STAFFERS CAN SPEAK FOR THE NEW GOVERNMENT, THE EMBASSY ISSUED A COMMUNIQUE CONTAINING THE REASONING BY THE ARMED FORCES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 11 TAKEOVER. THE COMMUNIQUE SAID "THE ARMED FORCES HAVE ASSUMED THEIR MORAL DUTY, IMPOSED ON THEM BY THEIR FATHERLAND, TO DEPOSE THE GOVERNMENT WHICH, EVEN THOUGH INITIALLY LEGITIMATE, FELL INTO ILLEGITIMACY. THE ARMED FORCES ARE TAKING POWER ONLY FOR THE TIME REQUIRED BY CIRCUMSTANCES, BACKED BY THE EVIDENCE OF THE MAJORITY OF THE NATION'S WILL, WHICH IN ITSELF, BEFORE GOD AND HISTORY, MAKES RIGHTFUL THEIR ACTIONS, AND THE ISSUING OF RESOLUTIONS FOR THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PATRIOTIC TASKS WHICH THEY ARE WILLING TO UNDERTAKE."

6. THE COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT THE NEW CHILEAN GOVERNMENT HAS INFORMED FOREIGN CREDITORS AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS "THAT IT RECOGNIZES ALL DEBTS LEGALLY INCURRED BY THE REPUBLIC OF CHILE."
SCHMIDT

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